

Greetings:

As a former broadcaster and an XM Radio subscriber, I can see no grounds whatsoever for changing the rules regarding local coverage, as has been requested by the NAB.

I think the local traffic coverage and other local information broadcast by the satellite radio providers should be accepted by the FCC without question. As radio listeners, we have a choice as to what we listen to. The local weather and traffic information offered by XM is just another excellent service offered subscribers. In the past, when in a strange area, I do not know what stations offer local traffic. I also know from living in the south Florida area, that this information is not available on a 24/7 basis as it is with XM radio.

With XM, when you need a quick check of traffic, push the button and the information is available. Local stations can not and do not offer this service 24/7. They broadcast the information only during high traffic hours, and then only between music or other news selections.

To me, especially considering the fuel costs today, XM is offering a valuable and much needed service with this local information. I feel the NAB is wrong in their opposition to this or any other expansion into local coverage.

I respectfully ask that you not only allow the satellite broadcasters to offer local weather and traffic, but other local information also. This is certainly in the public interest.

Sincerely,

/s/ Bill Mauldin
William Mauldin Productions, Inc.
1010 Canonero Drive
Greensboro, NC 27410-3804